

**CITY OF PLYMOUTH, WISCONSIN  
TUESDAY, MAY 27, 2025 COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
CITY HALL, 128 SMITH STREET**

**OFFICIAL MINUTES**

1. **Call to Order and Roll Call:** Mayor Pohlman called the meeting to order at 6:23 PM. On the call of the roll, the following were present: Diane Gilson, John Binder, Dave Herrmann, Mike Penkwitz, Kevin Sande, Angie Matzdorf Greg Hildebrand, and Jeff Tauscheck. Also present: City Administrator/Utilities Manager Tim Blakeslee, Assistant Administrator/Community Development Director Jack Johnston, Police Chief Ken Ruggles, Electrical Operation Manager Ryan Roehrborn, Finance Manager Chris Russo, and City Clerk/Deputy Treasurer Anna Voigt.
2. **Approve the Minutes from May 13, 2025:** Motion was made by Gilson/Herrman to approve the minutes from May 13. A unanimous aye vote was cast. Motion carried.
3. **Discussion and Possible Recommendation on Ground Cover Ordinance:** Johnston explained with future residential development already underway and expected to continue into the future, City staff wanted to provide clarifying language in the code in regards to yard maintenance. Code already provides regulation in regards to natural lawns and grass height; however, this does not extend to overall lawn maintenance and the requirement some sort of lawn be planted. The proposed ordinance would revise code language to ensure adequate lawn plantings and lawn care are installed with the upcoming housing projects. Mayor Pohlman asked how enforcement would work if someone says no. Johnston stated that it generally would run on complaint basis. When a complaint comes into City Hall it would be inspected than a letter or phone call would be sent out with a timeline. Blakeslee added if eventually they still didn't do anything they would be issued a municipal citation. Binder stated that the ordinance is pretty specific in terms of what a lawn is. Mostly what is talked about in the proposed ordinance is foliage. Binder stated that he has been in communities where lawns have been turf, wildflower meadows, or even small pebbles. Binder asked if some specific language should be added if anyone wants a lawn that doesn't fit the description they should appear a committee to make a recommendation. Johnston stated there is an ordinance currently for natural lawns. There isn't anything in the code currently that would allow turf or pebble lawns. Hildebrand added what if they want to cement their whole yard or a desert landscaping. Matzdorf asked is some of it not considered lawn anymore. Johnston stated he will take everyone's feedback and work with the City Attorney to craft an Ordinance to bring back to Council.
4. **Presentation from Ehlers on Municipal Bonding 101 and TIF 101:** Kayla Thorpe from Ehlers presented to the Committee on Municipal Bonding and briefly on TIFs.
5. **Adjourn:** Motion was made by Binder/Tauscheck to adjourn the meeting at 7:16 PM. A unanimous aye vote was cast. Motion carried.